



Construction Crew/ Kid Builders!

Where worship and fun collide!

525 Garden Dr., Marysville, OH, 43040

He's Everywhere, He's Everywhere!

Memory Verse: For the invisible things of him from the creation of the world are clearly seen... **Romans 1:20**

Lesson Overview: This lesson is designed to bring children to a place of discovering a very real God, and therefore enter into his presence. Children have a hard time believing in God because they do not see him as a “tangible” person. The Bible tells us that He is clearly seen from the evidence of creation itself. Subsequently, this lesson should bring children one step further into the presence of the mighty God we know as Father, and Friend.

Requirements for the lesson: Skunk Cover Scent (Can be purchased at any hunting supply store)

Object Lessons and Lead-in to the Lesson:

Option A: “It’s A Skunk!” Prepare the skunk scent. You can control this by placing the scent on cotton balls and placing them in a container, which can be sealed (such as a coffee can).

Open the can just before the children enter the room. If no one immediately notices the odor, begin casually talking to the children or making your announcements. As the children begin to discover the odor, begin to play into that direction. If they don’t readily say, “It’s a skunk”, then ask them what they think it is. They will probably know! You could mention some things like, “Oh yes, someone did see a skunk in this room yesterday, but they didn’t catch it.” Get them thinking it’s still in the room.

After a while or at the proper time, ask the children, “How do you know there is a skunk in the room?” Obviously, the answer is the smell. Also, perhaps the other evidence you may have given them (such as eye witnesses). Transition this to a comparison with God’s presence.

We know He’s here even though we do not see him. Others testify about Him, and His presence is often felt by us. Thankfully, His presence is not as offensive as the skunk’s odor. Put the lid back on the can!

Option B: “Real Fear!” (This can also be used as a lesson transition after option A.)

Open with Rev 9:1-15, and Rev 19:11-18. Be graphic and dramatic. If you have access to a sound system and sound affects, then this is a good time to use them.

When you are finished, **ask the children**, “How do these scriptures make you feel?” Even though these talk of Jesus’ glorious return to receive his people, they will most likely react to the panic and fear that is associated with such an awesome passage.

Explain that God is just as real as the fear they sense. If there is evil and fear, then there *has* to be love and boldness in God the Father. So many times we turn to the world or ourselves in times of fear and trouble, instead of the almighty creator.

The Lesson:

DO THE OBJECT LESSON: *“It’s a Skunk!”*

-- or --

DO THE OBJECT LESSON: *“Real Fear!”*

1. Invisible God

QUESTION: Why do you think God doesn’t show himself to us--right now, in this world--like a person? *(Give the children time to respond.)*

Imagine that someone like an Army drill sergeant suddenly burst into your life! “Now here this! I’m in your life now and you’re going to like it plenty. You’re going to love me so much that love is going to come out your nose! You’re going to love me with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength—and you’re going to like it, see! You’re going to like it because I said so. In fact, just get used to calling me your best buddy, because if you don’t, I’m going to break both your legs!”

What do you think of that? This certainly doesn’t sound like someone that I want to be my friend! We all like to pick our friends, and they like us because we like them. This is more like the way God wants us to come to Him—because we want to. Believe it or not, some people want God to come down and clobber them saying, “Here I am.” They think that if God is such a big God, that He should have His way. But God is a bit wiser than that. Let’s see how wise He really is.

a. God Gives Us A Choice

God loves us so much that we get to choose Him. We actually get to go looking for Him. This is what the Bible says in the Book of Joshua: “. . .choose you this day whom ye will serve. . .but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD” (Joshua 24:15). God doesn’t want us to love Him because He made us, but because we want to love Him.

b. He Wants Us To Believe

God wants us to have *faith* and to believe by faith.

QUESTION: Who can tell the class what faith is?
(*What God gives us so that we can believe—we know that God will do what he has put in our heart to believe.*)

God could make us believe in Him, but then He wants to know that we love Him enough to believe in Him and love Him. It's no fun trying to love someone who does not care for us too. God wants us to love Him because we truly do.

c. He's Boss

God is God and He doesn't have to show himself to us. He can do whatever he wants. Here is a very important question:

QUESTION: Who is the most real: Is it God or ourselves?
(*It is God*)

Think about it this way:

QUESTION: Which came first: The chicken or the egg?
(*That answer is easy: The chicken.*)

The chicken had to make the egg! There couldn't be eggs before there were chickens because something had to lay the eggs. God made us, so He is the most real. We are here because He had us in mind from the very beginning (Jeremiah 1:5). God created everything in the universe, so everything we see is "made". That means God is the most real being in existence. The Bible says that He spoke us into the world. I pray that He never speaks any of us out of being!

2. An Invisible God

Question: How do we know God is there, or even real?
Or
If you were God, why would you hide yourself from people? (*Allow the children to respond*)

Let's see how we did, and if it matches what the Bible says.

a. All Creation Speaks Of Him

- (1) Birds (Mt 6:26)
- (2) Flowers (Mt 6:28, 29)
- (3) Grass & People (Mt 6:30)
- (3) Trees (Ro 1:20)

Have the students turn to these scriptures & read them.

All of creation does show us that God is real.

b. We Know Right From Wrong

We know God is real also because we know there is right and there is wrong. It's easy to know and believe there is evil around; so, why not good? The Bible says that God is good and that there is no other like Him. God's ways are always right, so they help prove that God is real.

READ: Romans 7:15-17

A man named Paul wrote this. He knew that he wanted to always do what is right but always found himself doing something that was not so good.

QUESTION: Do you think that because Paul said this that he was a bad man? *(NO!)*

Paul just knew that he always wanted to please God, and that meant that he needed to be the best person that he could be. He knew God was very real and he wanted to please Him so very much. We should want to please God the same way.

QUESTION: What are some good things that we can do that you think would please God? How about when we are at church?

c. The Stars And The Planets

Some people look up at all of the stars in the sky at night and wonder if there is somebody else out there. Did you know that somebody else is out there? There is. It's God! Think of how wonderful all of the planets are. Each is different and none of the others are like it. The universe teaches us to appreciate God's handiwork. No matter how big the universe is, God fills it and He is still bigger.

3. God In Our Lives

QUESTION: How do we know God is real?

Yes, the Bible does tell us all of this. But there is lots of ways that we can know God is real today. Remember that the newest part of the Bible is 2000 years old and the older parts could be 6000 years old! A lot of people will not believe in God just because of some very old writings. They must have proof. That's why God sent His Holy Spirit to witness to all of mankind.

a. We feel his presence

There are lots of ways that we can all know God is real. Sometimes we can just feel that He is near by.

QUESTION: Has anyone in the class ever felt God nearby? What was it like?

God does want us to know that He is with us all of the time (Hebrews 13:5). Anytime we need to call on God He is there. God is amazing because He can be everywhere and with everyone at the same time. For us that is impossible. What a mess! God can be with millions of people at the same time. He is the only one who can do that. Not even angels or demons can pull that off! They're just like us—only in one place at a time.

b. He talks to us and heals us.

Still God talks to us. Can you imagine how busy He must be? Have you ever tried to talk to just two people about two completely different things at the same time? It can be crazy! Just think what it would be like if everyone in this class started to talk to me all at one time. It could make a person plain nuts. God does it with the greatest of ease. He also will talk to everyone who seeks Him. He gives us all the time we want to spend with Him too.

QUESTION: Have you ever heard God talk to you? What was it like?

God may not talk to us like I am talking to you right now, but He talks straight into our hearts. We know exactly what He is saying even if we didn't hear the words with our ears.

c. He works through us

We can also know He is with us by the power of His Holy Spirit that He puts in us.

QUESTION: Have you ever prayed for someone and they were healed? *(Ask a few to share their experience, or share one of your own with the class.)*

Did you know that God will do anything through us if we believe and trust Him. We have to ask Him for faith. He will give it to us if we believe.

d. Fulfilling His Word To Us

QUESTION: What do you think God's gift of prophecy is? *(When God says something to us about His plan for our life.)*

God doesn't want to just have us goofing around down here on earth not knowing what He wants us to do. He's always ready to tell us what we should do—if we are ready to listen. If you have never heard God speak to you or tell you something through another person, then you must get ready to listen for God's Holy Spirit. Listening for God's voice is another way of showing Him that we love Him and care for Him. God loves us so much that He lets us decide whether or not we want to follow Him.

We know God is with us when things He says He will do *actually* happen.

QUESTION: Has God ever told you something about yours or someone else's future that happened the way that He said it would? *(Teacher: you may want to share an experience of your own or play a recorded prophesy from a recent church service.)*

4. When Will We See God?

As we can see, God is everywhere, and with us all of the time. He stays with us even when all of our friends do not want to be with us. Still, we *can* see God.

QUESTION: How or when do you think that we will see God?

a. In Heaven

We will see God when we get to heaven. Jesus told us that someday—when we least expect it—He will come back and take all of the Christians to heaven. That will be a great day! Nobody knows when that will happen, but we must be ready for when that day does come. We may even die before that happens, but we don't have to worry when we have Jesus in our hearts. WE WILL go to heaven, and it will be so wonderful. We just have to make sure that we love Him with all we have got, and to love everyone else like we love ourselves.

b. Now, All the time

In a way, we see God now in the things and places around us. The Bible tells us that God is love (1 John 4:8). When we see others do something nice for someone just because they love them, then we are seeing what God is like. Sometimes God will ask someone to do something nice for another person. When they do it, then they are showing others what God is like. This is like when we do bad things. When we do bad things, we are acting just like the devil. We certainly don't want to do that!

QUESTION: Have you ever felt God asking you in your heart to do something for another person? Did you do it? If you did, how did it make you feel?

5. Ministry Time

Worship and praise time, or a prayer time, as the Lord leads. Focus on bringing the students to encounter God during this time.

- a. Encourage the children to get very close to God
- b. Encourage them to watch for, listen to, and feel God's presence
- c. Remind the children that it's not a matter of "if" God is here but if we will seek him.
- d. It's as easy as going through a door and as important as the air you breathe.

Remind the children if necessary that this is a serious time, and not a time for fooling around. If you have a child or even a few children that are not interested in seeking God and would rather distract, do take action. Do not allow the other children to be robbed of a blessing. If the problem cannot be easily corrected, then take the distracting children to their parents. This is not to say that these children are necessarily exhibiting bad behavior, but could actually not be ready for this experience, and just don't know what to do with it. Regardless, the majority of the class must be afforded the wonderful opportunity to receive from God, along with experience His awesome presence.

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